

**SIGMA
THETA
TAU
INTERNATIONAL**

**LAMBDA PI
CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

University of Toronto Faculty of Nursing Honor Society



VOLUME 4

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NUMBER 1

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NURSING Ph.D. PROGRAM TO COMMENCE IN SEPTEMBER

A Ph.D. in Nursing Science program that will commence at U of T in September, 1993, was announced by Dr. Dorothy Pringle, Dean, Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, and Dr. Jane Graydon, Chair, Graduate Program, Faculty of Nursing. Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the Sigma Theta Tau, Lambda Pi Chapter held in March, 1993, Dr. Pringle reported that five to six students will be admitted to this challenging program.

Dr. Graydon presented an informative historical perspective of the approval process. Drs. D. Pringle, J. Graydon, H. Llewellyn-Thomas, E. Hodnett, and J. Chapman, were recognized for their contribution to the development of this program. The steps that occurred from the inception of the Ph.D. Task Force in 1989, to the final approval of the program in November, 1992 were outlined.

Dr. Graydon said that the goal of the program is "to prepare nursing scientists with the analytical and research skills required for the study of clinical or administrative nursing problems". Fields of study include: nursing science of healthy individuals, families, and communities, nursing science of individuals and families experiencing acute and chronic illness, and the science of nursing administration. The length of this full-time program will be two years, with a maximum of six years completion time.

Admission requirements include a Master of Science in Nursing with a B+ average, completion of a Masters thesis, and a commitment from a potential Ph.D supervisor. The curriculum includes a philosophy of science and nursing courses in the

Cont'd from page 1

student's field of study, research methodology/ statistics and student/faculty research seminars. Comprehensive examinations and a dissertation are also degree requirements.

Dr. Pringle indicated that the University of Toronto Ph.D. in Nursing Science was developed based on the Canadian model of nursing doctoral programs. This model includes a limited number of courses, an emphasis on research and a dissertation. Canadian doctoral programs in nursing are also available at the University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, and McGill University of Montreal. The Dean also discussed programs available in the United States, which place more emphasis on course work than on nursing research. In Toronto, non-nursing doctoral programs are offered at the Institute of Medical Science, Graduate Department of Community Health, and O.I.S.E.

M.J. Watson

FUNDRAISING RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of the Lambda Pi fundraising draw held on April 14, 1993 at Research Day. The prize winners were as follows:

1st Prize

Weekend for two at Langdon Hall - Shirley Trentowsky

2nd Prize

2 Tickets to Miss Saigon - Jane Hancock

3rd Prize

Day at Mira Linder - Helen Sinnett

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

RESEARCH DAY POSTER AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners of the Lambda Pi Poster Awards of Excellence at Research '93:

E. McCay, R. Gallop, F. Cote, D. Garley, J. Harris & D. Matthews
"The Sexual Abuse Comfort Scale: A Review of the Preliminary Findings"

Norma Murphy

"The Potential for Community Mental Health Nurses to Influence Mental Health Policy Formation"

LAMBDA PI PRESENTS FIRST AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

**Honours Awarded to Dr. Judith Shamian,
Cheryl McCulloch and Dr. Ellen Hodnett**

Research Day 1993 marked the inauguration of Lambda Pi's awards for Excellence in Nursing Administration, Excellence in Nursing Practice and Excellence in Research. Each of the recipients are members of our chapter and were nominated by their peers. The selection of the winners of the awards for Practice and Administration was based on letters of support by colleagues and the nominees' professional achievements as outlined in their curriculae vitae. The selection of the winner of the award for Research was based on peers' letters of support attesting to the contribution to nursing made by her recent research work.

Congratulations are extended to each of the exemplary award winners.

**Nursing Administration Award -
Dr. Judith Shamian**

This award acknowledges the role of nurse administrators in contributing to the quality of care received by patients, the quality of health promotion programs in the community and the quality of work life of practicing nurses. In her role as Vice President, Nursing at Mount Sinai Hospital, Judith is viewed by her nominees as "creative and risk-taking", "a path-breaking innovator of professional nursing", "an exemplary nursing leader". An individual who

"instills a sense of excitement and inquiry about the practice of nursing", Judith is acknowledged for her authorship of over 50 articles, her reputation as a speaker and international nursing leader, and her mentorship of nursing researchers. Under her leadership, the Mount Sinai Hospital has gained international status as a collaborating center to the World Health Organization.

**Nursing Practice Award -
Cheryl McCulloch**

This award acknowledges the contribution practicing nurses make to patient care, to health promotion and disease prevention, to efficient functioning of the health care system and to the public's view of the nurse. Cheryl, CNS-Gerontology, is regarded as "a clinical expert" and "a role model for the nurses who work with her". Cheryl's nominees acknowledge her as being "at the forefront in the utilization of research findings" in her role in the development of programs to address the needs of the older patient. She is recognized for her "numerous pieces of research on skin care and restraint use" and her contributions to an evolving conceptual framework for nursing at Scarborough Grace. Cheryl is described as an individual who "exemplifies excellence in nursing

Cont'd from page 1

practice" and who "shares her knowledge through speaking engagements, paper presentations, and participation in nursing conferences and nursing organizations".

**Nursing Research Award -
Dr. Ellen Hodnett**

This award acknowledges a nurse who has made a significant contribution to research and recognizes the importance of nursing research to the development of nursing science and ultimately to nursing practice. Ellen's nominees describe her contribution to nursing research as "exceptional". An Associate Professor, Faculty of Nursing at U of T, Ellen is "well-known for her research in Perinatal Nursing". She supervises nursing graduate students and provides consultation to researchers throughout Canada. Colleagues who recently worked with her on a large study (n=1263) examining early maternal/newborn discharge described Ellen as "instrumental in guiding procedures", acknowledged her "phenomenal energy" and "extremely high level of research skill" and described her as "a mentor to two communities during the process". Ellen's nominees describe the study as "extremely relevant to clinical nursing" because it "demonstrates that nursing interventions can directly affect patient outcomes".

Congratulations to **Sandra Mitchell** who has achieved her certification in oncology nursing, with the Oncology Nursing Society in the United States. This designation indicates that she possesses a broad base of knowledge in the speciality of oncology nursing and this entitles her to use the credential O.C.N.



Anne Jack has been awarded research funding (\$93,116.00), from the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation to conduct a family evaluation of their Bereavement Program, *Memories of a Gentle Presence*, in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. A full-time research assistant, an RN with a baccalaureate degree, is conducting the interviews either in person or by telephone. To date, they have interviewed 75 families, their goal being 200. The grant runs until August 31, 1993. This was the initial funding from a fund set up to support internal nursing research at HSC. Once data analysis is complete (probably fall-winter of 1993-1994), results will be shared.

1993 SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

NAME OF GRANT	DEADLINE DATE	FUNDING DATE	BUDGET MAXIMUM	NUMBER OF GRANTS AVAILABLE	DESCRIPTION OF GRANT
Mead Johnson Nutritionals Perinatal Grant	June 1	September 15	\$10,000	1	Perinatal issues spanning the prenatal period through the first year of life. May include, but are not limited to low and high-risk maternal and neonatal care practices and innovative patient care delivery systems.
Sigma Theta Tau/American Assn. of Critical Care Nurses Critical Care Grant (AACN)	October 1	January 1	\$10,000	1	Critical care nursing practice.
Sigma Theta Tau/Oncology Nursing Society Grant (ONS)	December 1	May 1	\$10,000	1	Oncology clinically-oriented topic.

For applications, contact the Program Department at Sigma Theta Tau Headquarters

Sigma Theta Tau International
550 West North Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

(317) 634-8171



ANNUAL RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

Lambda Pi has awarded two research grants, part of an annual grants program established to encourage members to participate in nursing research. The recipients and the titles of their studies were announced at Research '93.

Cheryl Forchuk
Jan Westwell
Mary Lou Martin

The Orientation Phase:
Exploration with an International
Method

Jocelyn Bennett
Kathleen MacMillan

The Experience of Being the Same
yet Different for Adults Living
with Cancer

FALL SCHOLARLY PRESENTATION
October 26, 1992

Social support must receive increased emphasis in nursing theory development and education, according to **Dr. Miriam Stewart**, Professor, School of Nursing, Dalhousie University. Dr. Stewart, an MRC/NHRDP Scholar who has done extensive social support research, gave the Lambda Pi Chapter's Fall Scholarly Presentation, entitled **"We All Need Social Support: Relevance to Nurses' Lives, Practice and Research."**

Dr. Stewart stressed the influence that social support has on clients' health, coping, health behaviours and participation in care. Stewart stated that nurses have been investigating this concept for the past few decades as they have recognized its relevance and clinical importance. The speaker defined social support as a by-product of ongoing interactions of family, friends, peers, and health care providers who communicate information, establish an alliance, and provide aid to the client. Several models of social support have been developed, in which these interactions are seen as assisting clients to cope, moderate stress and promote health.

According to Dr. Stewart, current nursing theories give limited attention to groups, families, and communities, and have limited definitions of health which do not include a social component. Patients are rarely viewed as consumers or partners, and the nurse is perceived as an expert provider. Stewart urged nurses to recognize the contribution clients' life experiences can make to their knowledge base. Stewart suggested educators consider a shift in students' professional socialization from a view of nurse as expert to one of partner with the client. Stewart added that student clinical practice could focus on case studies and small group discussion, in preparation for facilitative/consultative partner roles.

Stewart discussed the implications of social support for nursing practice. The nurse assesses the social support system required along with what is available and accessible to the client. Once a diagnosis of a stressor is made, the client has input into the selection of supportive interventions. Nursing roles may be indirect, such as mobilizing or enhancing the support provided by others, or direct, such as providing surrogate support by acting as a consultant, advocate, educator and partner with the client. Interventions may occur at one or more levels, including individual, group, social system, or through mass communication and/or education. Stewart further discussed the need to evaluate social support outcomes such as the client's health status and behaviours, use of health services, self-efficacy, loneliness, and satisfaction with support.

Stewart said that social support research has focused on target populations which include clients with acute and chronic stressors, and illness and disability, and their caregivers. Further research is required in examining social support in maturational transitions, death, and divorce. Stewart identified gaps in social support knowledge including the impact on children, the poor, and multicultural groups. She suggested the need for intervention studies and measures of social support.

The Online Journal of Knowledge Synthesis for Nursing**CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS**

Manuscripts are being accepted for consideration for publication in the Online Journal of Knowledge Synthesis for Nursing. The purpose of this peer-reviewed electronic journal is to present synthesized knowledge in a timely fashion to a guide nursing practice and research. Ideally, reviews will be written by clinician/researcher teams. In the absence of a team, a clinician author should seek review by a researcher for integrity of the knowledge synthesis. Likewise, a researcher author should seek review by a clinician for relevance of practice implications.

Submit manuscripts or inquiries to:

Jane H. Barnsteiner, RN, Ph.D, FAAN
Editor
*The Online Journal of
Knowledge Synthesis for Nursing*
3434 W. Penn St.
Philadelphia, PA 19129

SHARE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

One of the great values in publishing a newsletter is providing an opportunity for members to let their colleagues know what they are involved in! Please share your honours and accomplishments. Recent publications, research awards, research results, career changes, (to mention only a few ideas) are all newsworthy items. Submit to: Donna Tucker, Newsletter Editor, at Scarborough Grace or call 495-2520.

New Executive Members and Committee Chairs

The following members are taking on new roles in Lambda Pi:

President-Elect	-	Gail Donner
Vice-President	-	Ann Tourangeau
Treasurer	-	Barb Duffey-Rosenstein

In addition, the following members have recently taken on leadership roles as committee chairperson:

Awards	-	Dr. Dorothy Pringle
By-Laws	-	Nancy Cybuiski

A warm welcome is extended to the following transfer-in members of Lambda Pi Chapter:

Effective - December 31, 1992

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRANSFERRING FROM</u>
Margaret Bickerton	155 - Zeta Nu
Doris Rappaport Grinspun	016 - Rho
Kathleen Jennifer Hamstra	215 - Iota Alpha
Robert Eugene Myers	057 - Beta Lambda
Lori Lynn Nichols	229 - Iota Omicron

Our best wishes for continued success are extended to the following transfer-out members:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRANSFER TO</u>
Dawn Louise Cook	026 - Alpha Delta
Kathryn Kauffman Taylor	032 - Alpha Kappa

LAMBDA PI MEMBERS TO PRESENT AT STT INTERNATIONAL IN SPAIN

The following members of Lambda Pi Chapter will be presenting their recent studies in Madrid, June 21-22, 1993.

Barbara Johnson Mary Lou Martin Phyllis Montgomery	The Experience of Thought-Disordered Individuals preceding an Aggressive Incident
Barbara Johnson Phyllis Montgomery	When a Chronically Mental Ill Individual Leaves Hospital: A Phenomenological Description
Jane Graydon Eleanor Ross	Factors Affecting the Level of Functioning Over Time of Patients with COPD
Wendy Kasta	The Incidence and Impact of Abuse on Nurses

FINANCIAL REPORT**LAMBDA PI CHAPTER
SIGMA THETA TAU**

BALANCE - January 27, 1992 \$10,851.02

INCOME

New Members	\$6,309.59
Renewals	4,792.33
Interest	<u>234.98</u>

Total: \$11,336.90 + 11,336.90

Total: \$22,187.92

EXPENSES

Induction	\$3,921.37
Meetings	950.50
U of T Research Day	500.00
Donation to reception for Helen Glass	400.00
Stationery, Newsletters	440.65
Sundries	275.60
Membership Dues	<u>2,578.98</u>

Total: \$9,067.10 Total: \$ 9,067.10

BALANCE AS AT MARCH 31, 1993 \$13,120.82

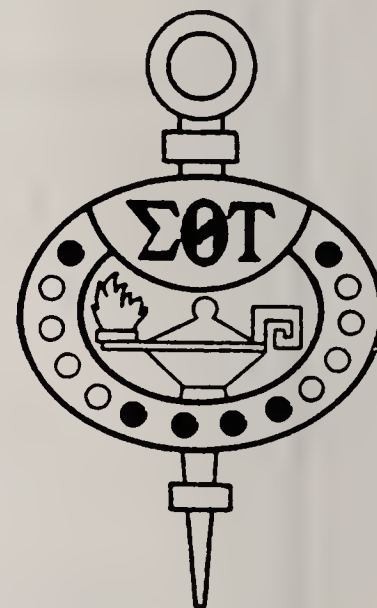
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 5, 1993	Annual Induction Mount Sinai Hosptial
June 21-22, 1993	Sixth Research Congress Madrid, Spain
October 1993	Fall Scholarly Meeting
November 29 - December 3, 1993	32nd Biennial Convention, Indianapolis

ON THE MOVE?

Please indicate address/job changes to:

LINDA WILLIAMS
c/o Lambda Pi Chapter
Faculty of Nursing
50 St. George Street
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A1
or call (416) 978-8318

**TAX RECEIPTS FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Receipts for income tax purposes are provided only on request by International Headquarters. If required, please request when submitting membership fees to STT International.